GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:219
ANSWERED ON:08.08.2005
INSPECTION OF GODOWNS
Vasava Shri Mansukhbhai D.;Yadav Shri Giridhari

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether some of the godowns of Food Corporation of India (FCI) have been inspected recently;

(b) if so, whether some old stocks of foodgrains and sugar unfit for human consumption were found during the said inspection;

(c) if so, whether any enquiry has been conducted in this regard to fix responsibility;

(d) if so, the details and outcome thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the actions taken or proposed to be taken against the erring officials?

Answer

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION(SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(a), (b), (c), (d), (e) & (f): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF THE STARRED QUESTION NO. 219 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 8.8.2005 IN THE LOK SABHA.

(a): Yes, Sir. All the godowns of the Food Corporation of India (FCI) are inspected periodically and regularly at all levels. The Assistant Manager (Quality Control) invariably inspects godowns once in a month.

The Minister of State Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution also paid a surprise visit to Food Storage Depot, FCI at Phulwarisharif, Bihar on 21st July, 2005.

(b): The quantity of foodgrains and sugar, unfit for human consumption, detected and categorized as damaged, in the FCI godowns, as on 1.7.2005, are as under:-

Damaged foodgrains	12,070 MT
Sugar	581 MT

The above stock position includes 314.5 MT of damaged foodgrains observed during the Minister`s visit to the FCI depot at Phulwarisharif, Bihar.

(c),(d),(e)&(f): Detailed verification of the stocks at Phulwarisharif depot was carried out by the FCI Regional Office staff on 21st July, 2005 itself. The FCI has reported that the damaged stocks have been tendered and financial arrangements made by the successful tenderers. The release order to lift the stocks have also been issued and stocks are expected to be lifted by the tenderers shortly.

The Depot Officer and Assistant Manager (QC) have been placed under suspension and disciplinary action initiated against the delinquent officials. Further, directions have been issued to the FCI to conduct detailed inspection of all the FCI depots in Bihar.